THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, the paper refers to the adverse effect of the Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act on effordable housing for the poor.

(c) and (d) Proposals for amendment of the Act have been formulated. However, no final decision has been taken.

Embezzlement in D.D.A.

2165. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a joint memorandum has been received by Goverment seeking appointment of a High Power Commission to probe into the embezzlement of Rs. 45 crores by the then DDA Chief Engineer of East Zone (Now Engineer Member) and his immediate suspension alongwith his associates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The memorandum has referred to a C.V.C. report on the investigation of part of the alleged Rs. 45 crores scandal in East Delhi involving the then Chief Engineer (Now Engineer Member) and other engineers, bogus payments to contractors, wrong allotment of contracts etc. It has also refered to other malpractices of DDA Engineering Wing and low level of construction of Houses.

DDA has reported that intensive examination report in respect of 14 works of East Zone and 2 works of South Zone have been received from the CTE's organization of CVC and are under detailed investigation by DDA. Explanation memos have been issued by DDA to a number of officials. DDA has further reported that the preliminary report of Chief Engineer (Quality Control) relating to 70 works spread over four divisions has been received and is under process.

DDA has reported that the report in respect of two allegations referred to CBI is still awaited.

This Ministry can take action only after the competent authority in DDA has obtained the first stage advice of CVC in the matter and makes a recommendation to the Ministry thereon in respect of action proposed against officers of the level of Chief Engineers and above.

Creation of Independent Pools in Delhi

2166. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the irregularities being committed by the authorities in charge of independent pools of accommodation created in Delhi which result in the loss of revenue to Government;

(b) if so, whether there is any provision for conducting special audit to be supervised by the C.A.G., his Ministry or the Directorate of Estates to curb the tendency to indulge in irregularities by the independent pools of accommodation; and

(c) if not, in what manner Government propose to ensure that there is no loss of revenue to Government as a result of the operation of independent pools of accommodation in Delhi ?